

# 778 Banshee Squadron Summer Training Guide

Editor: FCpl Yu, Jody

## Cadet Summer Training Courses 2011 - Summaries

Many cadets have no idea of what to expect when signing up for a course. It would be nice to know just a bit beforehand, so the cadets who participated in summer training courses wrote about their experiences in hopes for the others to enjoy the same courses as much as they did.



### General Training (GT)

**Summer 2011**

By: Cpl Rombos

This past summer, I was selected to participate in the 2011 G.T (General Training) course at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Trenton. This was one of the most memorable experiences in my life. I enjoyed many exciting and challenging activities during a two week course right on the base (and by “right on” I mean so close that you can watch the large Hercules aircraft take off and land). I was in flight 20 at GT, which had a magnificent combination of personalities. We also had the best flight staff that always made me laugh and ensured everyone had a great time.

I also had the privilege to experience a wide range of training ranging from music sessions and air force museum tours, all the way to survival training. My favourite activity was ‘marksmanship’ where we shot air rifles at an outdoor range. I was also thankful that I was first taught the parts of a rifle and how to use one, so I could shoot at my best. I was close to earning my marksmanship badge but was off by one shot.

A week into the training, we got our “break” day that lasted all through Sunday. My friend and I tried the obstacle course during this day off, which was filled with intense challenges. My favourite part was when I had to jump the walls.

As a word of advice to our new recruits, it is to be positive and patient, and try to get to know people around you. I am already working on checking out my options for next summer’s training, as I look forward to more unique adventures and new friendships. And one more piece of advice... hand in your forms on time so as not to miss any opportunities.

**HAVE FUN!**

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## **Basic Fitness and Sports Course (BFSC)**

## **Summer 2011**

By: FCpl Wu, Chloe

This is the perfect course for those who love physical activity and sports. For three weeks at Blackdown, cadets will learn the essentials of fitness and recreational sports training. Every day is filled with running around, playing sports, and having fun. Cadets learn how to work together with teammates, handle various situations that could be encountered during a game, etc. Skills in teaching and coaching sports is also given so that cadets have the knowledge to help in fitness and sports activities at their squadrons. Also, during this course there is the opportunity to earn a fitness program badge (separate for the BFSC badge) at the bronze, silver, gold, or Excellence level. This is an exciting course for anyone to try!

## **Basic Aviation Course (BAC)**

## **Summer 2011**

By: FCpl Kay, Vanessa

This past summer FCpl Codeluppi and I took an adventure to CFB Trenton to complete our BAC. During our fantastic trip away we learned a plethora on aviation. We took a ride on the Globe Master, and it was a breathtaking experience for the both of us. While in flight they dropped the cargo door which blew us all away! We made so many new friends from all over Ontario and got closer with our friends from 778. We made model planes out of balsam wood and competed to see whose plane was the best. Believe it or not FCpl Codeluppi won that award! One day we took a field trip to Ottawa to tour the aviation museum and the war museum, and we were fascinated with everything we learned that day. We learned how to fly planes using the simulators on the base too. Both of us had an amazing time, and we highly recommend it to anyone who is looking for a challenge and is interested in aviation.

*“To learn, to serve, to  
advance.”*

*- Cadet motto*



## Basic Aviation Technology and Aerospace Course (BATA)

By: FCpl Yu, Jody

For a duration of three weeks during my summer, I was on the Basic Aviation Technology and Aerospace Course (BATA) at CFB Trenton. As the course title suggests, there are different areas of focus. The three main topics are Aerospace, Aircraft Maintenance, and Aerodrome Operations. BATA creates a chance to explore all these topics to give an idea of what they include.

The first week of BATA was on Aerospace, and there were classes on space, stargazing nights, and even a field trip to Montreal. A short class on "Imitating Life in Space" allowed experience of what astronauts eat and use, and cadets were allowed to try freeze-dried "Space Ice Cream". Every cadet also built an engine-powered rocket and launched them at Connaught Range. The next week focused on Aircraft Maintenance. There were different classes, such as teaching how to change oil in an aircraft engine and gauging tire pressure. Then to allow cadets to try out their newfound knowledge, we built small aluminum bi-plane models. I learned how to use a press drill, saw wood, and rivet metal from that experience. Putting it all into a real-world perspective, a tour was given of Trenton's aircraft manufacturing plants. Lastly, the third week was spent on Aerodrome Operations. Most of the subject involved classroom lessons on airport functions and necessities. There was a tour to Trenton's airport control towers to learn how they track different aircrafts and maintain the safety of runways.

Throughout the three weeks, as a way of relaxing a bit and enjoying other camp activities, there was canoeing, a sports day, and swimming. I made lots of friends at camp from all over Ontario, and fun memories of BATA camp will definitely last through the rest of my life.

## Advanced Aviation Course (AAC)

Summer 2011

By: Sgt Chow, Stefanie

I took the Advanced Aviation Course (AAC) at Trenton for three weeks this past summer. The course consisted of classroom lessons and hands on experience on different areas of aviation such as the Theory of Flight and Meteorology. In Navigation, we learned how to plan individual flight plans. We did many evaluations such as tests and flight simulators over the three weeks. I also earned my radio licence during this course. My favourite part of the course was when we went flying up in a Cessna 172 in Peterborough. There, we also got the chance to tour a Hercules plane that suddenly landed at that airport. This is a helpful course for those who want to explore and continue aviation training.

# Advanced Aviation Technology - Airport Operations (AATC-AO)

By: FSgt Chan, Wayne

Advance Aviation Technology- Airport Operations also known as AATC-AO is a six week national course held at Canadore College at North Bay, ON. On this course cadets will be able to explore many different elements in airport management, airport security, and Canada's Air defence sectors (NORAD). On this course you will be able to earn your restricted radio operators license, the opportunity to visit NORAD at CFB North Bay and go behind the scenes on civilian air travel to see what happens before boarding a plane. This course has allowed me to explore and advance my aviation studies and apply the theories I learned from ground school to practise. The most interesting parts of this course are all the interesting activities I got to do, for example taxiing a plane down an apron and driving a tug to name a few. With this being my first course I had been on in cadets, this had been an amazing and memorable experience.



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